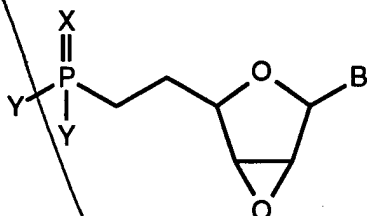


In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

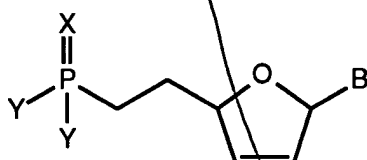
8. (amended) A compound of formula (III):



and stereoisomers thereof, wherein [B, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, Y and X have any of the meanings given in claim 7]

each Y is independently OR<sup>2</sup>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or SR<sup>2</sup> wherein,  
each R<sup>2</sup> is independently hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and  
X is oxygen or sulfur.

9. (amended) A compound of formula (IV):



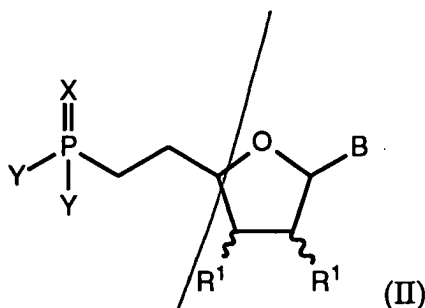
and stereoisomers thereof wherein [B, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, Y and X have any of the meanings given in claim 7]

each Y is independently OR<sup>2</sup>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or SR<sup>2</sup> wherein,  
each R<sup>2</sup> is independently hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and  
X is oxygen or sulfur.

13. The compound of claim 10 wherein B is 2-aminopurine or 2,6-diaminopurine [aziridinylicytosine].

17. The compound of claim 14 wherein B is 2-aminopurine or 2,6-diaminopurine [aziridinylicytosine].

20. (three times amended) A pharmaceutical composition useful for treatment of a viral infection which comprises an antivirally effective amount of a compound of formula (II)



and stereoisomers thereof, wherein:

B is a purine or pyrimidine base;

R<sup>1</sup> at the 2'-position is fluorine or methyl ether;

R<sup>1</sup> at the 3'-position is hydroxyl, fluorine or methyl ether;

each Y is independently OR<sup>2</sup>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or SR<sup>2</sup> wherein each R<sup>2</sup> is independently hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and

X is oxygen or sulfur

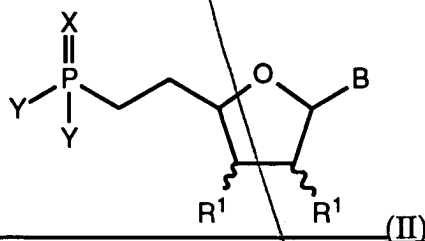
in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32. (amended) The compound of claim 10 wherein B is [adenine, guanine, cytosine,] thymine, uracil, iodouracil, 8-hydroxy-N<sup>6</sup>-methyladenine, [aziridinylcytosine,] 2-aminopurine or 2,6-diaminopurine.

33. (amended) The compound of claim 10 wherein B is [guanine, cytosine, thymine,] N<sup>2</sup>-isobutyrylguanine, N<sup>4</sup>-benzoylcytosine, N<sup>6</sup>-benzoyladenine or N<sup>3</sup>-benzylthymine.

34. (amended) The compound of claim 14 wherein B is [adenine, guanine, cytosine,] thymine, uracil, iodouracil, 8-hydroxy-N<sup>6</sup>-methyladenine, [aziridinylcytosine,] 2-aminopurine or 2,6-diaminopurine.

35. (amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of a viral infection [or a malignant condition] which comprises an antivirally effective amount of a compound of formula (II) [of claim 29]



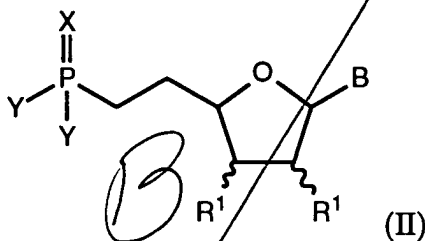
and stereoisomers thereof, wherein B is guanine, cytosine or thymine, ; R<sup>1</sup> at the 2'-position is fluorine or methyl ether; R<sup>1</sup> at the 3'-position is hydrogen or hydroxyl;

each Y is independently  $OR^2$ ,  $N(R^2)_2$ , or  $SR^2$  wherein each  $R^2$  is independently hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and X is oxygen or sulfur in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

35-5 36. (amended) The composition of claim 35 wherein [in the compound of formula (II),] each Y is hydroxyl, [and one of]  $R^1$  at the 2' position is hydrogen or [2'-]fluoro, [and the other]  $R^1$  at the 3' position is [3'-]hydroxy and X is oxygen.

10 37. (amended) The compound of claim 36 wherein B is adenine, guanine, cytosine[,] or thymine[,  $N^2$ -isobutyrylguanine,  $N^4$ -benzoylcytosine or  $N^6$ -benzoyladenine].

(U) 39. (amended) A compound of formula (II):  
cancelled  
in And 1/6



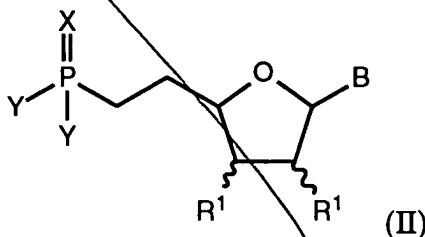
15 and stereoisomers thereof, wherein:

B is a purine or pyrimidine base;

each  $R^1$  is independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, fluorine or methyl ether [ester];

20 each Y is independently  $OR^2$ ,  $N(R^2)_2$ , or  $SR^2$  wherein each  $R^2$  is independently hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and X is sulfur.

25 41. (amended) A compound of formula (II):



and stereoisomers thereof, wherein:

B is 5-iodouracil, thymine, guanine, 8-hydroxy-N<sup>6</sup>-methyladenine, [aziridinylcytosine,] 2-aminopurine or 2,6-diaminopurine;

R<sup>1</sup> at the 3'-position is hydroxyl, fluorine or methyl ether;

R<sup>1</sup> at the 2'-position is hydrogen or hydroxyl;

each Y is independently OR<sup>2</sup>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, or SR<sup>2</sup> wherein each R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and

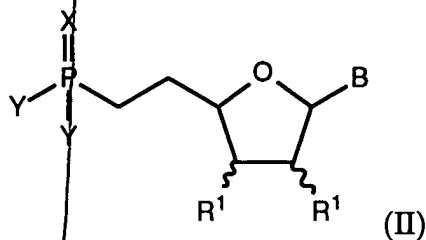
X is oxygen or sulfur.

Please add the following new claims.

--47. The compound of claim 40 wherein R<sup>1</sup> at the 2' position is fluorine.

48. The compound of claim 38 wherein B is adenine.

49. A compound of formula (II):



and stereoisomers thereof, wherein:

B is a purine or pyrimidine base;

each R<sup>1</sup> is independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, fluorine or methyl ether;

each Y is independently OR<sup>2</sup>, N(R<sup>2</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, or SR<sup>2</sup> wherein each R<sup>2</sup> is independently hydrogen or alkyl (1-12C); and

X is sulfur.

50. The compound of claim 49 wherein

B is adenine;

R<sup>1</sup> at the 3' position is hydroxyl; and

R<sup>1</sup> at the 2' position is hydrogen, hydroxyl, fluorine or methyl ether.--